

Program celebrates
sexual diversity

Health science holds yearly lecture

By MICHAEL PASAOA
Staff Writer

For the past 20 years the health science department has honored sexual diversity, and it reflects in their program, said Kathleen Roe, health science professor and department chair. It was created to make sure that San Jose State had a healthy climate during the early days of the AIDS epidemic and during the start of activism for gays and lesbians, she added. "Ten years ago, students came to us and said they weren't comfortable," Roe said, "that there weren't many gays on campus that were open, and they didn't feel well represented." Every April, the department commits a full day to address four lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender, or LGBT, issues in a positive way, Roe said. She said there are four items the health science department considers in its curriculum: 1. Cover how being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender individuals contribute to public health — not just

- HIV issues.
 - 2. Address resilience to social alienation.
 - 3. Make sure the department is a safe place for students.
 - 4. Unify strong allies for human rights in the profession.
- Around 15 alumni who were gay activists in the '80s and '90s returned for the annual reunion Monday. Among them were Amy Brinkman, who started the needle exchange program in Santa Clara, and fellow SJSU alumnus Andrew Gans. There was also an LGBT luncheon where 35 faculty, staff and alumni gathered and presented SJSU President Don Kassing with a gift for his influence on human rights, regarding Kassing's decision to suspend blood drives on campus, Roe said. At 6:30 p.m. in Sweeney Hall, there was a sexual diversity lecture that has been held every second Monday of April for the past 10 years. Ron Stall, professor and chair of the University of Pittsburgh's department of behavioral and com-

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Ed Memary, director of the health science department's masters of public health program, speaks with Ron Stall, a guest speaker.

INSIDE the
DAILY

CAMPUS VOICES:
TAX DAY
Today is the IRS' deadline for returns. Did you file on time?
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Associated Students
**Election
Guide**
theSpartanDaily.com

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International issues
drive discussion

By JOHN ELLIS
Staff Writer

Global terrorism and American foreign policy were at issue Friday at Pi Sigma Alpha's speakers night, sponsored by the National Political Honors Society, where professors spoke candidly about international crises. More than 40 people showed up, mostly students, to learn about world conflict and engage professors with questions. Primarily political science majors attended, though all SJSU students were welcome. "It's good for all social science students," said Dain Fitzgerald, a junior political science major. "I think it's valuable for all people to know this stuff." Four professors spoke at the event. Cobie Harris and Kathryn Wood, who teach international re-

lations courses, and Jeffrey Danese, who teaches about religion, are from SJSU. Jane Curry, a political science professor, teaches at Santa Clara University. The event showcased a free dinner, a roughly 20-minute lecture by each professor and a Q-and-A format session with the students. Among the topics discussed were globalization and the inconsistencies with United States policies (Curry), peace after the transition to democracy (Wood), religious extremism and the ways people are recruited (Danese), and African conflicts (Harris). "Since 1991, more civilians have died than during all of the cold war," Curry said, explaining the changing face of global violence. "We're not happy with some abuses and take action, but we

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Runner-up not so bad in business 'battle'

By CHRIS BAUSINGER
Staff Writer

Four students celebrated their second-place victory, beating Stanford, in the annual Battle of the Bay Undergraduate Case Competition Finals. A celebration was held in the courtyard in front of the Boccardo Business Complex on April 10. Maryann Cristofi, Kin Liu, Keith Lee and Brian Talarico were the members of the team selected by Cisco Systems, Inc., and Deloitte Consulting representatives to represent SJSU in the Battle of the Bay. The group was assembled in Professor Shailaja Venkatsubramanyan's Business Strategy and Information Systems class in the management information systems program. The students designed a market-entry strategy for this year that was for Cisco's Entertainment Operating System (EOS), which is a platform that includes social networking and advertisement, said information sys-

tems lecturer Jeff Gaines. SJSU came in second place behind UC Berkeley by a narrow margin and beat Stanford. Keith Lee, senior management information systems major, said, "Basi-

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Richard Sessions, managing partner at Altis Solutions, congratulates the SJSU students who won the Battle of the Bay Undergraduate Case Competition.

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AWARD | SJSU beat Stanford; Cal won

Continued from page 1

cally what one of the Cisco representatives said was they were leaning back and forth on their decision on whether it was us who won or if we lost.”

The team that competed against the other schools was assembled based on their individual group presentations for the business class. There were about 20 or so teams that submitted and presented their solutions, Gaines said.

The final team came close to beating out Cal. Their efforts were noticed by Cisco representatives.

Laura Fay, senior director of corporate communications strategy and integration at Cisco Systems, wrote in an e-mail, “This year San Jose State participation was the strongest it has ever been.

“To see these students, most as business-information systems majors, stretch themselves to work on a comprehensive go-to market business plan, and compete to a near vic-

tory against other top universities with strictly business-marketing majors, was incredible.”

The faculty on campus also seemed pleased with the students’ performances. Management information systems department chair, Tim Hill, was at Thursday’s celebration and said, “We don’t have the money or the facilities of the bigger schools, but we had the determination and the heart to compete.”

Lee was also proud of the way the team performed.

“I feel a lot better because as San Jose State students, people think we can’t hang with the big boys,” he said. “We went in there and held our own, so it is something that I’m proud about, San Jose State as well.”

Maryann Cristofi, who is also a senior management information systems major, said she had a great time working on the project.

“I feel really great about it, is a huge accomplishment,” she said. “It is a great learning experience. I learned a lot about myself and a lot

about my teammates and how dedicated people can be when it comes down to it.”

Senior management information systems major and team member Brian Talarico also had good thoughts about the results of the event.

“It is something we can look back on and say that we were involved in,” he said. “For the very first time we came in something other than third place.”

The members of the team said they were excited about the outcome but were also excited that the event was over. They had a general consensus that the competition pulled them away from their other school responsibilities, and they said they are all looking to get back into a state of normalcy.

Even though they lost to Berkeley, they all said they were happy about beating Stanford. Talarico said, “My dad graduated from Stanford, so it feels good to be able to rub it in his face.”

HEALTH

Continued from page 1

munity health sciences, presented health disparities affecting gay and bisexual men in the United States as part of this year’s lecture.

It was an opportunity for students to hear from an international researcher, Roe said.

Through his research, conducted from a sample of 2,900 gay men, he found that there were very high rates of distress and depression, childhood sexual abuse, HIV infection, substance use and abuse, and partner violence. He also found that 80 percent of the men in the sample were white and 80 percent went to college.

“It makes sense,” said Monica Chavarria, a senior health science major who attended the lecture.

One student, Irene Tabay, said she found the information shocking.

“I didn’t think of the association between child abuse, HIV and sexual behavior,” said Tabay, a senior health science major.

The next step would be to branch out to other campuses and solidify issues for all people — not just LGBT — but everyone, she said.

“This is a small department, but these 20 years is a sign that we have a strong base of support,” she added.

She said, however, that she hopes this effort branches out of the health science department and reaches the entire campus. Roe added that we’re not anywhere near the point where we would all feel safe.

An LGBT center is in the works in the Student Union, Roe said.

“If we keep moving in this direction, the day will come when we can count on this campus to be accepting and inclusive,” Roe said. “It takes all of us.”

SPARTA GUIDE

EVENT CALENDAR

Today

Careers in Aging Week; Aging: Whose Business Is It?
Speakers: David Werdegar, president and CEO of Institute on Aging, San Francisco, and Cheryl Jackson, Older Adults Care Management, Palo Alto.
Noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Student Union University Room
Contact: Dr. Nancy Hikoyeda, mms_maricrisdemayo@yahoo.com

Internship Blast
Noon to 4 p.m. at Ninth Street Plaza, in front of the Career Center

Live Music: The 186 Jazz Combo “Student Showcase”
John Shifflett’s small jazz ensemble class puts a fresh spin on jazz standards.
12:30 to 1:15 p.m. at the Music Building Concert Hall
Contact: Joan Stubbe, 924-4649, jstubbe@email.sjsu.edu

Study Abroad Information Meeting
Interested in learning about the world first hand? Come to a study abroad information meeting to learn about studying abroad in one of 40 different countries, get residential credit for classes taken abroad, all while paying SJSU tuition and fees.
4 p.m. at Clark Hall, Room 412
Contact: Lisa Baum, studyabroad@sjsu.edu

Art and Design Tuesday Night Lecture: Bulbo: DIY Media Strategies from the Border
In conjunction with the opening of their exhibition at the Thompson Art Gallery this evening, the resident artists from Galatea/Bulbo will discuss their work in cross-border collaboration using broadcast media with constructive aims.
5 p.m. at the Art Building, Room 133

Contact: Theta Belcher, tbelcher@email.sjsu.edu

School of Art and Design Gallery Receptions
Galleries: Ben Eberle, Gabe Toci, Nicole Marshall, Matthew Taylor Black, Michael Araya Herbert Sanders, Melissa Offutt.
6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Art Building and the Industrial Studies Building
Contact: Theta Belcher, tbelcher@email.sjsu.edu

Tomorrow

Counseling Services’ Juggling Roles: School, Job, Family, Friends — Can You Have It All?
Want to have it all? Learn the ways to balance & enjoy all the tasks you have in your life.
1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Administration Building, Room 269
Contact: Jane Boyd, 924-5910, cs0035@email.sjsu.edu

Counseling Services’ First Generation College Students Workshop
First in your family to go to college? Come learn about: 1) SJSU resources that can help you succeed, 2) scholarships and how to budget your money, 3) how to balance family and social life with academics, and much more.
6 to 7 p.m. at the MOSAIC Center in the Student Union, third floor.
Veronica Mendoza or Jovina Navarro, 408-924-5910, cs0035@email.sjsu.edu

Wednesday Evening Religion Course
Come join us at the San Jose Institute of Religion sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS).
7 to 8 p.m. at 66 S. Seventh St. Every Wednesday.
Contact: bohndm@ldsces.org, www.ldsces.org/sanjose

Sparta Guide is provided free of charge to students, faculty and staff members. The deadline for entries is noon, three working days before the desired publication date. Space restrictions may require editing of submission. Entries are printed in the order in which they are received. Submit entries online at thespartandaily.com or in writing at DBH 209.

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SJSU Ballroom Dance Club shakes its groove thang

By KIMBERLY TSAO
Staff Writer

Dancers sashayed across the floor of the Spartan Complex on Saturday for a salsa lesson and a mini-competition.

SJSU's Ballroom Dance Club hosted the annual spring event, which welcomes anyone who's interested in dancing.

"The cycle is ending," said Akshay Dayal, a software engineering major, "so when it comes next year, I'll definitely join."

Bethany Shifflett, the club's faculty adviser, said, "Anybody in kinesiology has two lives." She explained that one is an academic area and the other is an activity area. She partners statistics with dance.

Shifflett said the club was founded in 1994, and the competition followed the next year.

"I've been dancing for a while now," Dayal said, "so I wanted to try out in a competition."

Kim Granata-Clark, volunteer faculty adviser, said the event brings people together in a nonthreatening way.

The dancers strolled in to register at the door, dipping into the salsa lesson first.

"Quick, quick, slow," Shifflett directed. Every few minutes, she had the dancers line up in rows to teach them new variations of the dance.

She would also have them switch partners; the ladies' skirts twirled as they spun around like the teacup rides at Disneyland.

German Serrano, president of the club, said salsa is his favorite form of ballroom dancing because of the beat of the music and the movement.

Gloria Foster, a sophomore animation/illustration major, said she needed to attend five salsa lessons for a kinesiology class assignment, but she learned a lot.

After spicing things up with the workshop, the competition began and lasted until late in the afternoon. Once the competitiveness died down, the dancers could take it away till 7 at night.

In the contest, each dance was separated into two categories: beginning and intermediate. The dancers were transported to the past with some "oldies but goodies" tunes like "Movin' on Up" and "Crazy Little Thing Called Love."

"I enjoy competing," said Katie Tyson, a freshman chemistry major. "I've been looking for a partner to compete with, and I got the option to do that today — a little unexpected, but it'll be fun."

The competitors got their grooves on with the waltz, tango, foxtrot, cha cha, rhumba, East Coast swing, salsa, two-step and hustle. During the tango, the dancers extended their limbs, and they complemented the music

by stomping on the hardwood floor.

"Rhumba is slow, but it's sexy," said Evelyn Shieh, a freshman psychology major. "Waltz is slow, but it's fun to do."

Elizabeth Jewett, a freshman pre-nursing major, said she would dance the salsa and the cha cha because Latin dances are fun.

As a break between some of the ballroom dances, faculty adviser Shifflett, the master of ceremonies, had the contestants participate in a Jack-and-Jill dance, which pairs up each dancer with a noncompeting partner. Later, Shifflett pulled a switcheroo on the dancers by having them take part in a Jill-and-Jack dance, which had the ladies leading the steps.

There were a minimum of two couples in each competitive category, but not after a little encouragement.

The judge, Mark Scoleri, exclaimed that there would be a "free first place" if at least one couple joined the vacant competition levels.

Scleri said his judging wouldn't be too critical. The professional dance instructor said he would keep an eye on their timing, accents and the connection between two partners.

Serrano, a graduate software engineering major, said this mini-competition is different from what the club is expected to have in the Fall. This contest is more easygoing, and it's mostly for beginners. He said it's like a tryout for them.

In November, the club is scheduled to hold its annual nationwide competition in the Student Union Barrett Ballroom. The event will be divided into six levels: newcomer, bronze level, silver level, gold level, advanced and open.

The dancers will have a grander selection of ballroom dances, including the Viennese waltz, jive, West Coast swing, samba and "paso doble," a Spanish phrase meaning "double step." In the past, people from San Diego, Palo Alto, Santa Cruz and Berkeley have joined in on the fun, totaling to approximately 200 ballroom extraordinaire ought-to-bes.

The Ballroom Dancing Club meets for around two hours on Friday nights.

"I've been ballroom dancing for about four years — on and off — with different groups," said Tyson, 19. "It's a good outlet to get to know people my own age at this school."

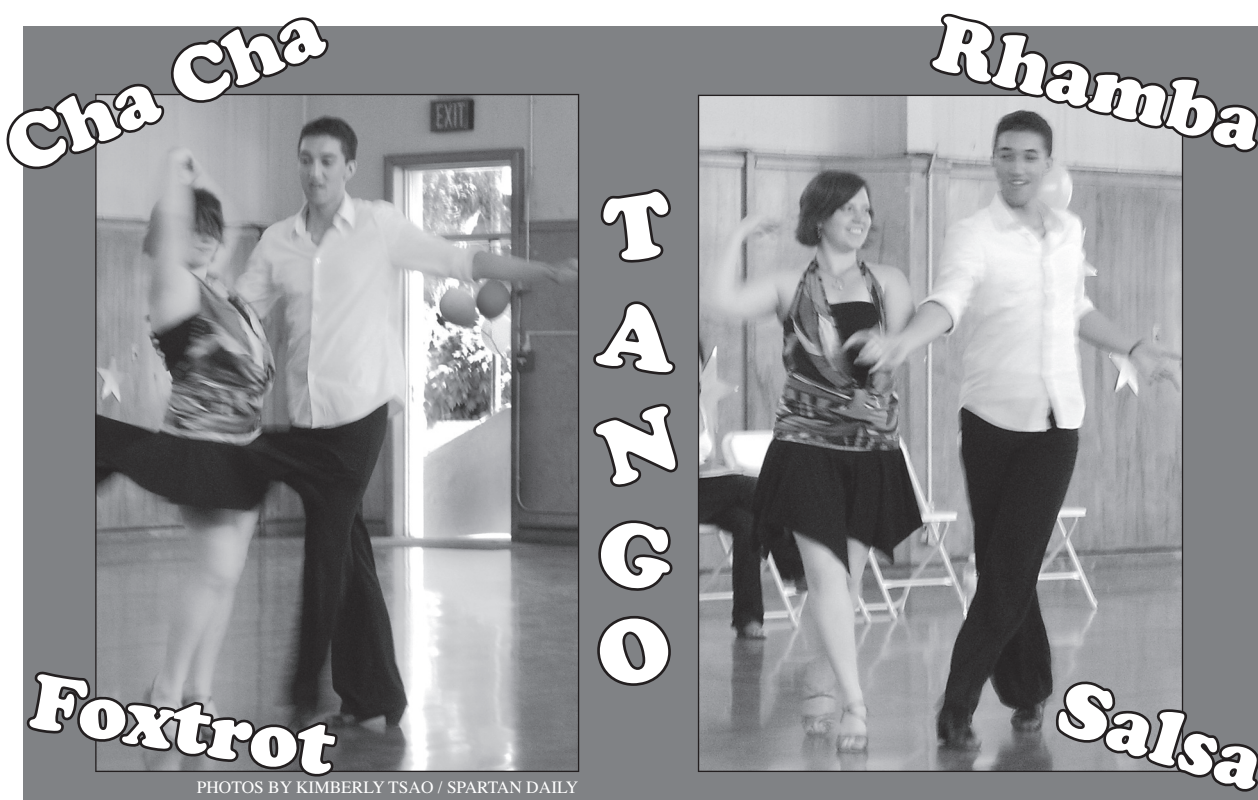
Around 75 people strut into the meetings, 35 of whom are members from SJSU. Volunteer faculty adviser Granata-Clark said they try to bring professionals from local dance studios, such as San Jose Dance Sport Center and Dance Spectrum.

"I like how we have different instructors for every dance," said Shieh, 19. "I like everything."



PHOTO BY KIMBERLY TSAO / SPARTAN DAILY

German Serrano, president of the Ballroom Dancing Club, and Lauren Lewis participate in the Jill-and-Jack dance, which involves rotating partners.



ABOVE: Dancing pair Christian Omphory and Brittany Huffman won first place in five advanced levels of the mini-competition put on by SJSU's Ballroom Dance Club.

"Rhumba is slow, but it's sexy. Waltz is slow, but it's fun to do."

EVELYN SHIEH
freshman
psychology

Check out a slideshow of the SJSU Ballroom Dance Club grooving to the music.

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DAILY FROM THE ARCHIVES
OCTOBER 15, 2002

Student apathy in class more than an annoyance

ANNA BAKALIS

A Moveable Feast

Do you ever feel like screaming in class?

You know, to break the silence between the teacher and the students?

There's a question looming in the air. You might know the answer but don't venture to guess because fear, embarrassment or just plain incomprehension strikes.

And you, an intelligent person with a point of view, don't answer.

What is this about?

After going to college (four different ones) for the better half of a decade, I might be a spoilsport, but the amount of silence I hear in class is enough to convert a mime.

I feel for teachers.

Call it what you will — student apathy, shyness or ignorance — it's enough to make you wonder what motivates people to go to class every day.

What we have here is a failure to communicate.

But this reluctance to engage in meaningful interaction must frustrate college professors.

Take any general education class as a model for this apathy phenomenon.

I've had that feeling of "I could answer but I'll let someone else do it."

Then that guy in the front row answers the question.

You know the one.

He's the professor's counterpart to intelligent reasoning: brown-nosing and blatantly ego-tripping. He likes the sound of his own voice, and the teacher's question gets hit into left field.

Feeling the rant only escalating, the class collectively rolls eyes and shuffles in their desks.

Considering his diatribe downtime, maybe they check their cell phones for text messages or, more tactfully, read a book.

I have nothing but admiration for teachers out there who answer the students with consideration rather than with a "see me after class."

This means that the teacher wants to spare the student's feelings as well as make the time useful to the class.

Or what about that other guy in your art history class who eats his lunch during lecture and then spends the slideshow time falling asleep next to his blank notebook?

He starts snoring. You can't ignore this obvious discourtesy.

So you tap him on the shoulder.

But this happens in every class.

You'd think he'd learn not to eat such a heavy lunch.

Everyone snickers, but the teacher continues with the lecture.

What about that one girl with the shoes who always comes in 20 minutes late?

Her Italian leather boots make more

of a sound than she does all semester.

I'm sorry. I know that computers are the greatest thing since public universities, but why must the rest of the class, including the teacher, be subjected to the click-clack of some girl's French tips as she powers through the lecture, all the while staring at the screen.

I'm talking about courtesy and participation. Not too tough for high school graduates, you'd think.

First off, all of these lower- and upper-division requirements are essentially just a way for the state to get more money out of us.

But second, these professors have to deal with comments from students like:

"Well, this isn't my major, and I only took this to satisfy my G.E., so why do I have to learn this?"

I hate to use this comparison, but teachers are becoming more like salesmen.

Rather than greeting young people at a gateway to higher learning, they

*The amount of silence
I hear in class
is enough to
convert a mime.*

have to justify their curriculum with an answer to the above question.

Instead of teaching to a responsive, proactive group of young minds, it seems they sometimes have to peddle their wares.

And students can either buy it or not.

I was taught that everything contributes to my education.

Even the lack of passionate reasoning and purposeful argument in the classroom can be educational.

I have a hard time justifying years dedicated to classes and homework simply for that rolled-up piece of paper you get at the end of the long haul.

If I'm going to spend four hours a day in class, I had better be getting something out of it, other than pushing me an inch closer to graduation.

Student indifference is a symptom of many things, and we can't blame anyone but ourselves for not participating in class discussion.

People often become teachers because they want to help others discover the path to higher learning.

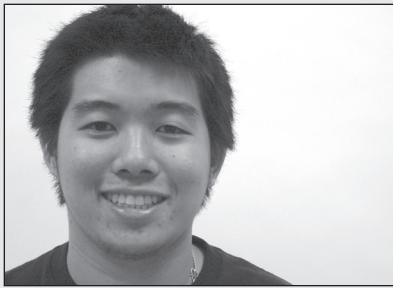
On top of shaping young minds, teachers now have another job.

Now they must accommodate this collective lack of enthusiasm with as much grace as possible.

I'd be frustrated, too, if the customers I served didn't show satisfaction.

I guess that's why they call it an education.

This column was originally published in the Oct. 15, 2002, issue of the Spartan Daily. Anna Bakalis was then the Spartan Daily executive editor.



By **SAMUEL LAM**
Senior Staff Writer

When I was a young, I embraced the 1960s. I still have my Bob Dylan albums, my Beatles shirts and posters, and my old Ed Sullivan videos. Sadly, I was born in 1986.

The first band I listened to was The Beatles, and since then, I couldn't help but wish I actually lived in the '60s. I continue to live through the music that decade brought, and I am surprised that it still resounds in today's world.

War! What is it good for? Absolutely nothing!

In 1969, our country was still in battle with the Vietnam War. The public had put the war under heavy scrutiny, as many people did not feel that the United States needed to be involved in Vietnam. But President Lyndon B. Johnson struggled in winning the trust of the public with his questionable decisions in foreign policy. In anticipation for change, the country awaited a new president.

Today we're still in a war in the Middle East — a war on terrorism. Since the Sept. 11 attacks more than six years ago, the country has been in a state of fear and confusion.

Who attacked us? Why?

So, to combat this, we are sending troops over to Iraq to fight a war that many feel is unnecessary. President Bush has called our

I read the news today, oh boy

war to help bring justice to those involved in the attacks. So far, questions have been asked about the country's involvement in the war.

In 2008, we're also awaiting a new change for the country. A new president will be elected. Will our new president guide this country in a new direction?

"There must be some kind of way out of here," said the joker to the thief.

Soldiers in the war are asking each other the same thing. Is there a way out? When will this end?

Because so many young lives were lost in war, young children have lost parents. Parents have lost children. Cousins, aunts, uncles are all lost in this war.

The soldiers in war, many of them our age, probably don't know why they are in the war. It just doesn't make sense to them.

There's too much confusion, I can't get no relief.

And the confusion continues on the streets right at home.

Everywhere I hear the sound of marching, charging feet, boy ... There's just no place for a street fighting man.

Protests against the war and unfair justice continue to rise every day. Like in the protests of the '60s, protesters will not rest until their voices are heard. It seems that everywhere you look, there is somebody against the war, demanding peace.

It doesn't look like the protests are making any impact.

There are no leaders like those of 40 years ago. Where are our Tommie Smiths and John Carloses? Do we have an international icon like Muhammad Ali who can say "no" to the war?

I can't find any of them.

War, children, is just a shot away.

And what about the problems back on our own soil?

There is a house in New Orleans they call the Rising Sun.

There are houses in New Orleans, still destroyed and unclaimed. Even though the song is not about a natural disaster overtaking the area, it still brings attention to the struggles of The Big Easy. Why did it take us so long to evacuate the residents? We should have done more and should still be doing more. When will New Orleans see a brighter, better day?

All you need is love.

There is an ongoing debate on what constitutes marriage. Can it involve two men? Two women? With some states outlawing

*There are no leaders like
those of 40 years ago.
Where are our
Tommie Smiths
and John Carloses?*

gay marriage and some allowing it, we are to wonder what is love? Can these people just love without being hated? Or are they forced to follow some rule that says they cannot love each other?

Love is all you need.

Can our nation stop the fighting and move on?

The times, they are a changin'.

As the nation continues to embrace the new millennium, there are changes that we all will encounter. The events aren't the same as they were in the past, but they're still the same issues. I don't know how we can fix it, and it's going to be hard to find the solution.

The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind.

The answer is blowin' in the wind.

Time to grow up and use a tissue



FELICIA ANN AGUINALDO

Positively Pessimistic

The other day, I caught my friend with his finger up his nose. He's 25.

One of my other friends is thinking of re-dating someone who dumped him — just so he could be the dumper this time around. He's 30. Is age really nothing but a number?

It seems to me that once you pass a certain age — say, 16 — you should shed your old habits, like picking your nose and dating people for revenge.

We're adults now. Why don't we act like it?

When we were 16, we begged our parents to consider us adults.

When we were 18, we thanked the law for deeming us legal adults.

And now that most of us students are in our 20s, we actually get to experience adulthood.

Instead of embracing it, though, we ruin it by resorting to our childish ways.

When are we going to grow up?

As 20-somethings and older, we shouldn't have to rely on Mom to remind us to act our age — or to take our fingers out of our noses.

We're no longer on the playground. We're in the real world.

And in the real world, we don't play with boogers or with other people's hearts.

There comes a time when we get past that childish stage, and that time is now.

How do we expect anyone to take us seriously if our fingers are in our noses and our minds are on revenge?

When I was younger, I couldn't wait until I was in my 20s. Now that I am, I'm embarrassed by my fellow 20-somethings.

I mean, who picks their nose? Honestly?

Are we 5 years old again? But wait, it wasn't OK back then either.

So, who — or what — is to blame for the childish behavior of so-called adults?

Is it the inner child we all have inside of us? No, because even though my inner child tempts me to not fix my bed in the morning, I still fix my bed in the morning.

Is it our desire to maintain our youth?

No, because most people who try to stay young get makeovers, not revenge.

Adults act like children because they get away with it.

If I were to have yelled out in disgust at my nose-picking friend, I'd bet he would think twice before picking — or at least picking in public.

At the time, I wanted to save him from the embarrassment of knowing he got caught green-handed, but perhaps if he knew someone would have seen what he did, he'd grab a Kleenex instead.

And if I had told my heartbreaking friend that his plan for revenge was just as bad as a 16-

*How do we expect anyone
to take us seriously if
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and our minds are
on revenge?*

year-olds, I'll bet he would have learned to get over the humiliation of getting dumped without getting back.

But then again, maybe grown-ups don't get over their bad habits.

Maybe they just sit around picking their noses and devising plans to get back at each other.

And if that's the case, then maybe we should reconsider what it means to be an adult.

"Positively Pessimistic" appears every Tuesday. Felicia Ann Aguinaldo is a Spartan Daily copy editor.

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*Weather forecast courtesy of SJSU department of meteorology

the
DAILY
QUOTE OF THE DAY

*"If John McCain wants
to turn this election into
a contest about which
party is out of touch
with the struggles and
the hopes of working
America, that's a debate
I'm happy to have."*

BARACK OBAMA

Responding to John McCain's claim that Obama's April 6 comments were "elitist" and a "fundamental contradiction of what I believe America's all about."

Spartan Sports Trivia

How many head coaches has the SJSU women's water polo team had in its 12-year history?

● Answer will appear in Wednesday's edition of the Spartan Daily

RANTS FROM THE SPORTS DESK

By JOSH WEAVER
Sports Editor

LEAVE THE TORCH ALONE

The Olympic torch has become a target for protesters around the world, even being doused in France, as it makes its way to Beijing for the 2008 Summer Games.

Really?

The flame, a symbol of competition and unity through sport, has no affiliation with the Chinese government, Tibet or human rights.

It isn't the torch's fault.

Marred by protests during its only appearance in North America, the April 9 relay through San Francisco was cut from the original 6-mile course to 3 miles, complete with secret locations and a discrete closing ceremony — disgraceful.

Next time, don't protest fire. Stay off the bridge. Leave your Super Soaker at home, and enjoy the tradition.

If the San Jose Sharks don't make it out of the first round of the playoffs, I will no longer support them.

Well, at least not with the zeal I have demonstrated in the past for the team in teal.

Not because I'm a frontrunner, but because I'm tired of the Bay Area sports teams mucking it up in crunch time.

After 49 wins this season, and years of playoff disappointments, one would think the Sharks were prepared, determined and impelled to achieve greatness and earn the sports' highest honor, the Stanley Cup.

Apparently not.

Three games into the first round they find themselves down 2-1 to the Calgary Flames. Their abysmal collapse Sunday sums up the recent playoff hardships Sharks fans have had to endure. Three goals in just over three minutes to open the game and they still lost 4-3.

Where is Joe Thornton by the way? He must be tucked away in his annual playoff-hiding place. The Sharks need their star player to step up, or it's one and done.

Carmelo Anthony, there has to be a better way to spend the \$13.7 million headed your way than on lawyer fees.

The Denver Nuggets star forward was arrested Sunday on suspicion of DUI — his second run-in with the law since February, when he was cited for driving 25 mph over the speed limit, according to an article on Yahoo.com.

Being arrested is no laughing matter, but, "Melo," it would have been nice if you had been pulled over two weeks ago when the Golden State Warriors still had a hold of the eighth and final spot in the Western Conference playoff standings.

Of course there is no immediate sentencing for this, but your team would have suffered down the stretch without your 25.8 points per game and the possible distraction stemming from your alleged infraction. More important, the Warriors late-season slump would've surely been less significant. But that is another story.

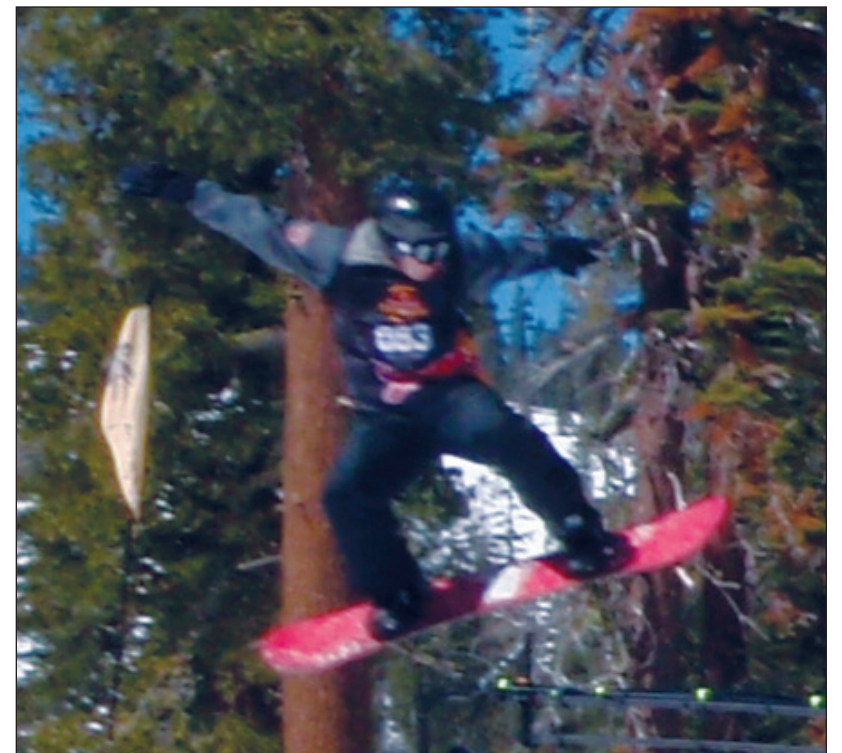
I SWEAR, THEY BETTER ADVANCE

TOO MUCH, TOO LATE



3 ... 2 ... 1 ... Lift off

Read tomorrow
as staff writer
Tommy Wright
follows the
SJSU
Snowboarding
Club's trip to
the third-annual
Snow Warz
in Tahoe



PHOTOS BY TOMMY WRIGHT / SPARTAN DAILY

*Full coverage in
Wednesday's Spartan Daily

TOP: Sophomore David Haele participated in Saturday's Snow Warz event at the Northstar-at-Tahoe Resort. ABOVE: SJSU student John Meehan got some air after hitting a jump.

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Vote online: **my.sjsu.edu**
10am Tuesday through 8pm Thursday

Polls open Today and Tomorrow 10pm-6pm
In front of the Student Union and the Event Center.
Vote here for your free bracelet.

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